

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 122045
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DRAFTED BY EA/ANP:WBODDE:CB

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII IMMEDIATE 0292

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY SUVA

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CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD AND PASS ADM WIESNER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:OVIP (KENNEDY, EDWARD), XP, XU, TQ

SUBJECT: US PARTICIPATION IN SOLOMON ISLANDS INDEPENDENCE
CELEBRATION

1. THE WHITE HOUSE HAS INVITED SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY TO
LEAD THE US DELEGATION TO THE SOLOMON ISLANDS INDEPENDENCE
CEREMONIES JULY 5-8. MR. JOHN MC CORMALLY, EDITOR OF THE
BURLINGTON, IOWA HAWKEYE HAS ALSO BEEN ASKED TO BE PART
OF DELEGATION. DELEGATION COULD NUMBER 30 PERSONS,
INCLUDING OTHER US REPRESENTATIVES, KENNEDY FAMILY AND
PT-109 VETERANS. INFORMATION THAT THE SENATOR WILL LEAD
THE DELEGATION SHOULD BE HELD CLOSELY SINCE ANY ANNOUNCE-
MENT ABOUT THE COMPOSITION OF THE DELEGATION WILL BE MADE
IN WASHINGTON. POSTS SHOULD BE AWARE OF HIGHEST LEVEL
INTEREST IN SUCCESS OF THIS MISSION.

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2. FOR CINCPAC AND POLAD

(A) WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE US NAVY VESSELS ARE ALREADY
SCHEDULED TO VISIT HONIARA DURING CELEBRATION BUT MAY NOT
ARRIVE THERE UNTIL THE MORNING OF JULY 6. WOULD
APPRECIATE KNOWING POSSIBILITY OF SHIPS ARRIVING ONE OR

TWO DAYS EARLIER.

(B) WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE EARLY ESTIMATE OF DEGREE OF LOGISTICAL SUPPORT CINCPAC COULD PROVIDE INCLUDING POSSIBILITY OF MAKING AIRCRAFT AVAILABLE TO TRANSPORT DELEGATION TO SOLOMON ISLANDS AND NUMBER OF BERTHS THAT COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE ON NAVY VESSELS SCHEDULED TO BE AT HONIARA DURING CELEBRATION.

(C) WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT THERE ARE NO FACILITIES FOR PARKING AIRCRAFT AT HONIARA AIRPORT SO AIRCRAFT WILL HAVE TO LEAVE THE SOLOMONS AFTER THE DELEGATES DISEMBARK AND RETURN LATER TO PICK THEM UP.

3. FOR EMBASSY PORT MORESBY

(A) WE WOULD APPRECIATE ASAP YOUR JUDGEMENT REGARDING POSSIBLE PROBLEMS AND THE REACTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOLOMONS TO THESE TENTATIVE PLANS. WHILE WE ARE AWARE THE GSI HAS REQUESTED THAT THE SIZE OF DELEGATIONS BE LIMITED BECAUSE OF THE SHORTAGE OF HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS THE PRESENCE OF US NAVAL VESSELS IN HONIARA SHOULD PROVIDE SOME FLEXIBILITY.

(B) FYI: WE HAVE ALSO RECEIVED INVITATIONS FOR AMERICAN SAMOA AND GUAM AND HAVE SENT THEM TO THE DEPT. OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTERIOR FOR TRANSMITTAL. VANCE

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